

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY **Poland**

REPORT

SUBJECT **Stalowa Wola Steel and Armament Plant**

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. A steel and armament plant is located in the woods a few kilometers southwest of the city of Stalowa Wola in Poland. About 70% of the male residents of Stalowa Wola work in this plant. Many of the other workers in the plant live in the villages and small cities in the neighborhood and commute daily by train or bus. Some workers live in villages as far as 50 km. from the plant. Positions in the steel plant are usually sought after, since the pay scales are comparatively high.
2. More than half of the electric power produced in the Stalowa Wola power plant is utilized in the Stalowa Wola steel and armament plant.
3. During the period from July 1954 to July 1955, six new Siemens-Martin furnaces were installed in the Stalowa Wola steel plant. These furnaces are believed to have been manufactured in Poland, but nothing is known about their size or productive capacity. The Poles are now interested in purchasing new regulating equipment for these furnaces from Western European firms.
4. Part of the steel produced in the Stalowa Wola steel plant is delivered to a locomotive factory in Poznan (Posen). The Poznan factory reportedly has to slow down production if deliveries of steel from Stalowa Wola are temporarily held up, since steel is allegedly in very short supply.
5. Most of the steel produced in the Stalowa Wola plant is reportedly used in the production of heavy weapons in an armament plant attached to the steel plant. The exact types of weapons produced in the armament

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plant are unknown, but barrels for heavy artillery pieces are reported to play an important role in the production program. Artillery barrels produced in the plant are tested in a subterranean firing range. Very often the sound of firing on this range can be heard in the city of Stalowa Wola. The firing range is believed to be of considerable size since there is usually an interval of several seconds between the sound of the artillery piece being fired and the sound of the explosion of the shell. From the sound of the explosions, the artillery pieces being tested appear to be over 50 mm. in diameter.

6. The Stalowa Wola steel and armament plant is very carefully guarded and the nearby woods are constantly patrolled. People strolling in the woods in the neighborhood of the plant run the risk of being arrested, interrogated, and imprisoned. Foreigners are almost never granted permission to visit the plant. The last foreigner known to have visited the plant was a [redacted] technician who worked there for a short period in about 1953.

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